

DOCUMENT: Memo for Mr. Nichols dated July 20, 1939

ANALYSIS

A year after Congress had authorized the FBI to join Interpol, N. H. McCabe wrote Nichols his concern that the FBI had not formally become a member yet.

McCabe writes that if the FBI fails to act, "the Secret Service or some other Federal Agency may seek to become a member, and the FBI might thereby suffer in international prestige."

He notes that since Germany now controls Austria and Austria controls Interpol, there is a "distinctly Austro-German atmosphere" that is the "principal objection" to joining but states:

On the other hand, if we fail to join the Commission at this time after we have already indicated a willingness to join and after obtaining the necessary funds for membership in our Appropriation, it might be construed as an act of unfriendliness.